

According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 6.7 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending May 20, 2001**. Hot and dry conditions continued across most of the state with drought conditions developing along sections of southwestern and coastal Mississippi. Soil moisture was rated 10 percent very short, 40 percent short, 46 percent adequate, and 4 percent surplus.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	2000	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	Emerged	98	95	100	97	1	5	22	61	11
	Silked	4	1	2	2					
Cotton	Planted	97	90	91	89	0	5	21	61	13
	Emerged	85	69	76	68					
Rice	Planted	98	94	86	94	0	2	21	62	15
	Emerged	91	79	69	80					
Sorghum	Planted	97	94	90	87	0	4	19	67	10
	Emerged	90	78	83	78					
Soybeans	Planted	91	85	75	72	1	5	32	50	12
	Emerged	78	70	56	53					
Watermelons	Planted	94	92	86	83	2	15	33	38	12
Wheat	Heading	100	98	100	99	1	5	38	39	17
	Mature	20	6	30	26					
	Harvested	2	0	--	--					
Sweetpotatoes	Planted	7	5	16	12	--	--	--	--	--
Hay (Cool Season)	Harvested	85	72	79	64	0	6	34	45	15
Hay (Warm Season)	Harvested	7	--	--	--					
Blueberries						0	0	27	46	27
Cattle						0	5	28	56	11
Pasture						1	13	38	38	10

County Agent Comments

“High temperatures and high winds really took the moisture away from the crops this week. Pastures and hayfields are suffering. There is little or no response to fertilizer applications so far. Some soybean producers are waiting on a rain before continuing planting.”

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie County

“It is dry enough that the in-furrow insecticides are failing on cotton and corn. Some cotton planted on heavy, wet soils is falling over due to the seed slit opening up as it dries out!”

— Stephen Winters, Grenada County

“The cotton crop has been planted and producers are trying to get the soybeans in the ground as fast as they can. No-till has saved enough soil moisture to achieve good emergence on most crops. The cool season hay crop is very short compared to previous years. Minor damage to forage crops by armyworms has been reported.”

— Dalton G. Garner, Prentiss County

“Dry weather continued throughout the county over the week allowing producers to finish planting soybeans. Cool season hay was completed and cattlemen began harvesting warm season hay for the first time this year. Topsoil moisture is getting low for spring planted crops. Some bean leaf beetle damage was observed on soybeans. All crops could benefit from a rain. Pastures have not really begun growing as they normally do. Horn flies are beginning to be a problem in some herds.”

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha County

Weather Summary from May 14, 2001 to May 20, 2001 for Mississippi

District/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Avg Pan Evap
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Avg	
1. Upper Delta													
Clarksdale						0.00	-1.19	0	1.62				0.19
Cleveland	91	56	77			0.30		1	1.35				
Tunica	93	59	79	71	+8	0.00	-1.32	0	0.87	98	66	84	0.38
Extreme/Average	93	56	78	72	+6	0.10	-1.14	0	1.11	98	66	84	0.31
2. North-Central													
Holly Springs						0.00	-1.26	0	1.05				0.29
Memphis	90	60	78	71	+7	1.57	+0.44	1	3.29				
Oxford	90	51	75	68	+7	0.10	-1.24	1	1.50				
Extreme/Average	90	51	76	70	+6	0.56	-0.70	1	2.40				0.29
3. Northeast													
Booneville	89	50	71	69	+2	0.15	-1.18	1	1.63				
Corinth	89	50	73	70	+3	0.26	-0.94	1	1.93				
Iuka	88	44	68			0.21		1	1.69				
Pontotoc	87	55	73	70	+3	0.01	-1.17	1	1.88	77	68	72	0.27
Tupelo	89	52	74	70	+4	0.61	-0.72	1	3.57				
Verona	90	53	74			0.00		0	2.22	89			0.32
Extreme/Average	90	44	72	70	+2	0.21	-1.05	1	2.15	89	68	72	0.29
4. Lower Delta													
Belzoni													
Greenwood	91	54	75	72	+3	0.36	-0.83	3	1.40				
Rolling Fork	92	57	77	73	+4	0.92	-0.13	2	1.10	98	76	88	0.23
Stoneville	91	57	77	72	+5	0.33	-0.75	1	1.65	92	71	83	0.35
Yazoo City	90	55	74	73	+1	0.15	-1.12	1	2.31				
Extreme/Average	92	54	76	73	+3	0.44	-0.75	2	1.69	98	71	85	0.28
5. Central													
Carthage	90	51	72	71	+1	0.00	-1.15	0	0.68				
Jackson	89	54	76	72	+4	0.19	-0.97	1	2.00				
Winona	87	47	69	69	0	0.13	-0.97	1	E1.42				
Extreme/Average	90	47	72	71	+1	0.11	-1.06	1	1.37				
6. East-Central													
Brooksville						0.00	-0.93	0	0.76				
Columbus	92	52	73	71	+2	0.00	-1.11	0	1.13				
State University	90	51	74	71	+3	0.11	-0.92	1	1.01	89	72	81	0.24
Extreme/Average	92	51	74	71	+3	0.04	-1.04	0	0.97	89	72	81	0.24
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	91	52	75			0.00		0	1.23	97	70	85	
Natchez	87	53	74	74	0	0.00	-1.26	0	1.60				
Oakley	90	50	75	72	+3	0.00	-1.12	0	1.48	100	71	87	
Vicksburg	88	57	76			0.07		1	E2.16				
Extreme/Average	91	50	75	73	+2	0.02	-1.20	0	1.62	100	70	86	
8. South-Central													
Columbia	92	56	76	73	+3	0.00	-1.19	0	0.59				
McComb	90	54	75	72	+3	0.00	-1.26	0	1.13				
Extreme/Average	92	54	76	73	+3	0.00	-1.25	0	0.86				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont						0.00		0					
Hattiesburg	90	54	76	73	+3	0.00	-1.19	0	3.49				
Laurel	90	53	74	72	+2	0.02	-1.15	1	1.82				
Meridian	89	50	74	72	+2	0.00	-0.99	0	1.81				
Newton	90	50	73	71	+2	0.00	-0.96	0	1.23	90	64	77	0.26
Extreme/Average	90	50	74	72	+2	0.01	-1.03	0	2.09	90	64	77	0.26
10. Coastal													
Bay St Louis	94	54	76			0.00		0	0.07				
Biloxi AFB	88	61	78			0.10		1	0.20				
Gulfport						0.00	-1.12	0	0.49				
Pascagoula	91	50	73			0.03		1	0.62				
Poplarville	92	56	77	74	+3	0.01	-1.11	1	2.36	96	66	82	0.32
Extreme/Average	94	50	76	74	+2	0.03	-1.10	1	0.78	96	66	82	0.32
State	94	44	75	72	+3	0.14	-1.03	1	1.53	100	64	81	0.27

DFN = Departure from Normal.  
"E" = Includes Estimated Daily Values.